## MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION THOMPSON CENTER, 8TH FLOOR, CONFERENCE ROOM HELD ON APRIL 29, 2010

## **Present at the meeting were:**

Acting Chairman Mitch Weisz
Commissioner Mario Basurto
Commissioner Yolaine Dauphin
Commissioner James DeMunno
Commissioner David Gore
Commissioner Kevin Lamborn
Commissioner Nancy Lindsay
Commissioner Molly Mason
Commissioner Barbara Sherman

## **IWCC** staff present at the meeting were:

Ms. Amy Masters, Secretary of the Commission Mr. Darrell Widen, Assistant General Counsel

Acting Chairman Mitch Weisz called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the minutes of the Commission meetings held on January 28, 2010 and February 24, 2010 were unanimously approved.

Acting Chairman Weisz informed the Commission that Daniel Donohoo was currently being vetted for commissioner in the public member slot. As Mr. Donohoo is from the Metro-East area, a discussion was held by the Commission regarding staff attorneys for downstate commissioners working in downstate offices instead of in Chicago. Issues discussed include document copying, mailing and transfer of case files, and training.

Acting Chairman Weisz informed the Commission that the Governor's office might explore the agreed bill process in the fall of 2010 and he asked for suggested amendments. He noted that changes need to be made in the Rate Adjustment Fund (RAF) language.

Next the Commission discussed implementation of a new review procedure to accommodate attorneys with oral arguments scheduled downstate who mutually agree to have the case heard in Chicago or attorneys with oral arguments scheduled in Chicago and mutually agree to have it heard downstate.

The Commission also discussed which orders and decisions should be issued by an individual commissioner and which should be issued by a 3-member panel. Acting

Chairman Weisz stressed the importance of reducing time to issue orders, and suggested implementation of a form where parties by agreement could request to have one commissioner issue an order. Commissioner Basurto suggested that this issue be included on the agenda for the upcoming meeting with the Illinois Appellate Court.

The Commission next discussed RAF and reviewed the RAF notice which was updated with Darrell Widen's name and contact information. He noted that RAF claimants are ineligible for benefits once their case is settled and that he recently met with the Attorney General's office regarding current RAF payments on settled cases. He noted the State Treasurer will ask for benefits to be terminated in an effort to eliminate unnecessary payments.

Chairman Weisz added that he will continue to meet with the rules committee and move forward with rules changes already reviewed and approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Dauphin spoke about the "rule to show cause" procedure. The Commission also discussed the relevance of transcript authentication and delays that occur in this process.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.